

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,872,998 B2
DATED : March 29, 2005
INVENTOR(S) : Hiroshige Hirano et al.

Page 1 of 1

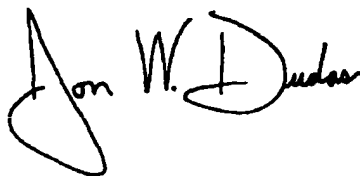
It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 6,

Line 54, "ton" should read -- top --.

Signed and Sealed this

Twentieth Day of September, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jon W. Dudas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "D".

JON W. DUDAS
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office